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**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hideyoshi HORIMAI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2615

Application No.: 09/868,598

Examiner: T. Harris

Filed: July 6, 2001

Docket No.: 109881

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PHOTOGRAPHING THREE-DIMENSIONAL  
IMAGE, APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DISPLAYING THREE-DIMENSIONAL  
IMAGE, AND APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CONVERTING THREE-  
DIMENSIONAL IMAGE DISPLAY POSITION

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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MAR 26 2004

Sir:

Technology Center 2600

In reply to the February 25, 2004 Restriction and Election of Species Requirement,  
Applicants provisionally elect Group I, Species I with corresponding claims 2, 6, 8 and 12,  
with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 2, 6, 8 and 12  
correspond to species I is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of  
any one Group of claims 2, 6, 8 and 12 correspond to species I would encompass a search for  
the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search  
and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP  
§803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be  
made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it  
includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully

submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction and Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

David E. Brown  
Registration No. 51,091

JAO:DEB/tbh

Date: March 25, 2004

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

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